THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) In order to address the issue of affordability of houses for all sections of society, the first urban area specific housing policy, the National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 has been formulated, which has been laid on the Table of both Houses of the Parliament on 07.12.2007. The Policy seeks to set in motion a process for providing "Affordable Housing for All" particularly for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low Income Groups (LIG) through various types of public-private partnerships and development of various financial and operational innovations.

(c) According to the estimations of the Technical Group constituted by the Ministry for assessment of the urban housing shortage at the end of the 10th Five Year Plan, the total housing shortage in the country is 24.71 million. During the 11th Five Year Plan period, the total urban housing requirement including the backlog and additional requirement is estimated as 26.53 million dwelling units.

(d) 'Land' and 'colonisation' being State subjects, State Governments have to take steps for implementation of initiatives envisaged in the Policy. The Policy has been widely publicized and has been forwarded to all States/Union Territories as well as to various Ministries of the Central Government and other implementing agencies.

Housing scheme for weaker sections

2241. SHRITARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of houses have increased many times especially in the metros;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to start any centrally sponsored housing scheme specially for people of weaker sections of the society in the metros; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The Ministry is concerned about affordability of houses for different sections of society.

In order to address the issue of affordability of houses for all sections of society, the first urban area specific housing policy - the National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 has been formulated, which has been laid on the Table of both Houses of the Parliament on 7.12.2007. The Policy seeks to set in motion a process for providing "Affordable Housing for AH" particularly for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low Income Groups (LIG) through various types of public-private partnerships and development of various financial and operational innovations.

Apart from NUHHP, 2007 the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched by the Government in the year 2005 caters for provisions of housing and basic services to urban poor in 63 specified cities and also for non-specified cities. Also a provision has been made in the budget of 2007-08 to provide for interest rate subsidy scheme for loans to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Groups (LIG).

ATask force has also been set up by this Ministry to look into various aspects of providing "Affordable Housing for All" and to recommend ways and means of enhancing accessibility of EWS/L1G categories to housing with suitable governmental support and developing innovative financial instruments for bringing flexibility in the housing market and making recommendations as to fiscal, spatial incentives for increasing supply of houses.

Construction of houses for the poor under JNNURM

†2242. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILALVORA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals have been received by Government from the State Government of Delhi to construct houses for the poor under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of houses to be constructed under the said scheme;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that the allottees could not sell these houses to others; and

(d) the mechanism to monitor the use of quality material in the construction of these houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARISELJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), 8 Projects with total Project Cost of Rs. 1445.33 Crore have been approved for construction of 55,280 new houses for urban poor in Delhi.

(c) The JNNURM guidelines stipulate a minimum of 12% of house cost as beneficiary contribution (10% in case of SC/ST/BC/OBC/PH and other Weaker Sections). This would facilitate proper identification of beneficiaries and likely to inculcate a feeling of ownership among them. Further, it is stipulated that the title of the land be preferably in the name of the wife or alternatively jointly in the names of husband and wife to discourage allottees from selling the house allotted to them. While approving projects the sanctioning committee at the central level prescribes for survey and proper indentification of beneficiaries.

(d) The Programme Management Unit at the State Level Nodal Agency designated by the State Government and the Project Implementation Unit at the local body/implementing agency level, monitor implementation of approved projects, including quality aspects.

Conversion of dry latrines and the liberation of manual scavengers

2243. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble Prime Minister has directed her to prepare a status note on the programmes regarding Conversion of Dry Latrines and the Liberation of Manual Scavengers;